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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, SEPTEMBER 10, 1998

APPLICATION OF

BELL ATLANTIC-VIRGINIA, INC.

CASE NO. PUC980116

To implement Extended Local  
Service from the Salem exchange  
to New Castle Telephone Company's  
New Castle exchange

ORDER PRESCRIBING NOTICE

On August 7, 1998, Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc. ("BA-VA" or "the Company") filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to the provisions of § 56-484.2 of the Code of Virginia. BA-VA proposes to notify its Salem exchange subscribers of the increases in monthly rates that will be necessary to expand their local service to include New Castle Telephone Company's New Castle exchange. The application states that telephone subscribers in the New Castle exchange had earlier petitioned the Commission for local calling to Salem. Using a cost study prepared by New Castle Telephone Company, the Commission determined the increase in monthly rates that would result from the expansion of the New Castle local service area to include Salem. Subscribers in the New Castle exchange were polled regarding their willingness to pay higher

rates for local calling to Salem. The majority of those responding supported the proposal.

Cost studies have been conducted to determine the monthly rates for extended local service from Salem to the New Castle exchange. Because the resulting increase does not exceed 5% of the existing monthly one-party residential flat rate for Roanoke subscribers, a poll of those subscribers is not required by § 56-484.2.

NOW, having considered BA-VA's application, BA-VA's proposed public notice, and applicable law, the Commission is of the opinion that this matter should be docketed; that BA-VA should give notice to its customers in the Salem exchange of this application; and that those subscribers should be permitted to file comments and requests for hearing.

Accordingly,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUC980116.

(2) On or before November 9, 1998, BA-VA customers who may be affected by this proposal may file with the Clerk of the Commission written comments or requests for hearing about this application. Any corporation shall be represented by counsel in accordance with Rule 4.8 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure and shall file an original and fifteen (15) copies

of any comment or request for hearing on or before that deadline. Individuals may file single copies. All comments or requests for hearing shall be filed with William J. Bridge, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218, and shall refer to Case No. PUC980116.

(3) A copy of this order and the application shall be made available for public inspection at the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

(4) On or before October 9, 1998, BA-VA shall publish the following notice in the Salem exchange twice as display advertising (not classified advertising) in newspapers of general circulation in that exchange.

NOTICE THAT BELL ATLANTIC - VIRGINIA, INC.  
PROPOSES TO EXPAND THE LOCAL SERVICE AREA OF  
THE SALEM EXCHANGE TO INCLUDE NEW CASTLE  
TELEPHONE COMPANY'S NEW CASTLE EXCHANGE  
CASE NO. PUC980116

Telephone subscribers in New Castle Telephone Company's New Castle exchange petitioned the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for local calling to the Salem exchange. Subscribers in the New Castle exchange were polled regarding their willingness to pay an increase in monthly rates for local calling to the Salem exchange. The majority of those customers responding support this expansion of local service.

Based on Bell Atlantic-Virginia's ("BA-VA") costs, the Commission determined the monthly rates for extended local service for Salem customers to call the New Castle exchange (telephone numbers in the 540 area code beginning with 864). For extended local service to New Castle from Salem, monthly rates would increase as follows: flat rate residential service, \$0.09; residential message rate service, \$0.06; residential measured rate service, \$0.06; residential economy message service, \$0.04; residential economy measured service, \$0.04; residential exchange only service, \$0.08; business flat rate service, \$0.33; business message rate lines or trunks, \$0.08; business measured rate lines or trunks, \$0.08 and PBX flat rate trunks, \$0.51.

Customers whose rates are not listed above or who desire more information on this proposed change should contact BA-VA's customer service center. Residential customers should call 954-6222; businesses should call 954-6888. Copies of BA-VA's application may be reviewed at the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

Customers wishing to comment on the proposed change to their local calling area or to request a hearing on the application may do so by filing such requests or comments in writing, referring to Case No. PUC980116, with the Clerk of the Commission, William J. Bridge, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218, on or before November 9, 1998.

If the Commission receives objections or requests for hearing from the lesser of 5% or 150 of the Salem customers, it may consider BA-VA's application without a hearing.

(5) On or before November 9, 1998, BA-VA shall provide proof of the notice required above.

(6) If the Commission received objections or requests for hearing from the lesser of 5% or 150 of the Salem exchange customers, it may consider BA-VA's application without a hearing.

(7) On or before December 1, 1998, the Division of Communications shall file a report with the Commission on the number of objections to the proposal.